From: Fauver, Becky Sent time: 09/23/2014 12:33:56 PM To: Hunter, Chris Subject: FW: Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Weekly Digest Bulletin Chris -Michael Szerlog said you were the HQ contact for the Juneau Access project. I just wanted to let you know that they released their draft SEIS and comments are due Nov 10th. We commented with NEPA on a preliminary draft of this a few months ago, so I'm hoping our comments have been incorporated in this draft. **Becky Fauver Aquatic Resources Unit** Office of Ecosystems, Tribal, and Public Affairs **US EPA Region 10** 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, ETPA-083 Seattle, Washington 98101 Ph 206.553.1353 From: Curtis, Jennifer Sent: Monday, September 22, 2014 9:49 AM **To:** Fauver, Becky Subject: FW: Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Weekly Digest Bulletin Good morning Becky, The Juneau Access Draft SEIS came out late last week, comments are due November 10. I am downloading from the website right now at home but may not be able to get the sections saved to your folder on the shared drive until tomorrow or Thursday. I plan to go through the document today to identify the sections that are most relevant to 404 and let you know. You can access the document on the project website right now at http://dot.alaska.gov/sereg/projects/juneau access/documents.shtml.

Do you think you could get your review done and comments to me by October 30? I know I am going to need to do a briefing or two on this one before the letter is finalized and sent.

Thanks!

Jennifer Curtis, NEPA Reviewer

222 West 7th Avenue, #19

Anchorage, Alaska 99513

Phone: 907-271-6324

Fax: 907-271-3424

From: Alaska DOT and PF [mailto:dotpf.announcement@service.govdelivery.com]

Sent: Sunday, September 21, 2014 2:36 PM

To: Curtis, Jennifer

Subject: Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Weekly Digest Bulletin

Juneau Access Draft SEIS Available for Public Review

09/18/2014

For Immediate Release: September 18, 2014

Contact: Jeremy Woodrow, 907-465-8994, <u>Jeremy Woodrow@alaska.gov</u>

Juneau Access Draft SEIS Available for Public Review

(JUNEAU, Alaska) – The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) today announced the release of the Juneau Access Improvements Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). The document is available for review and public comment, and may be found online at juneauaccess.alaska.gov.

The purpose and need for the Juneau Access Improvements Project is to provide improved transportation to and from Juneau within the Lynn Canal corridor that will reduce travel times, state and user costs, and provide capacity to meet demand and improve opportunity to travel. The Draft SEIS provides a detailed overview of potential surface transportation alternatives between Juneau and the communities of Haines and Skagway.

"Providing more opportunity and lower costs for Alaskans to travel to and from the state's capital is our goal. Juneau Access not only benefits the region and the state, it provides the department more flexibility for scheduling ferries and planning other long-term transportation projects" said ADOT&PF Commissioner Pat Kemp. "Eliminating nearly 100 miles of ferry travel also allows communities such as Sitka to receive improved ferry service, a request that the community has voiced for many years."

ADOT&PF and the Federal Highway Administration have identified Alternative 2B, known as the East Lynn Canal Highway, as the preferred alternative. This alternative connects the existing Juneau road system at Echo Cove to the Katzehin River Delta approximately 48 miles north. Ferry shuttle service would then be provided between Katzehin, Haines and Skagway. A separate shuttle ferry would also operate between Haines and Skagway during the summer.

The Draft SEIS may be found as a printed copy at the following locations: Juneau Public Library, Douglas Public Library, Mendenhall Public Library, Haines Borough Public Library and Skagway Public Library.

ADOT&PF will host an open house and hearing to present the Juneau Access Improvements Project Draft SEIS at the following locations and times:

Juneau - Tuesday, October 14: Centennial Hall Convention Center Open House: 1 p.m. - Public Hearing: 5 p.m.

Haines - Wednesday, October 15: Chilkat Center for the Arts

Open House: 3 p.m. - Public Hearing: 6 p.m.

Skagway - Thursday, October 23: Skagway High School Multi-Purpose Room Open House: 3 p.m. - Public Hearing: 6 p.m.

In 2006, the Federal Highway Administration issued a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Record of Decision for the Juneau Access Improvements Project. A 2009 U.S. District Court decision ruled the FEIS was not valid because it did not consider an alternative that would improve surface transportation in Lynn Canal with existing ferry assets. This ruling was upheld by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 2011.

In September 2011, ADOT&PF announced that it would begin the process with the Federal Highway Administration to complete a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Juneau Access Improvements project.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 254 airports, 11 ferries serving 35 communities, 5,619 miles of highway and 720 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to *Keep Alaska Moving* through service and infrastructure.

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Amendment 11 to the 2012-2015 STIP has been adopted.

09/18/2014

STATE OF ALASKA, DOT&PF DIVISION OF PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT 2012-2015 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

NOTICE: Amendment 11 to the 2012-2015 STIP has been adopted

Amendment 11 to the 2012-2015 STIP has been adopted. Amendment 11 addresses funding and scheduling issues on several projects around the state.

Links to notice details are available at:

- http://www.dot.alaska.gov/stip
- The notice is also posted on the State's Public Notice site at: http://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/
- A bulletin has been sent electronically to our current subscribers through the department's "GovDelivery" system – anyone can sign up for GovDelivery online at: http://www.dot.state.ak.us/

If a hard copy of the STIP Project Changes is needed, please contact DOT&PF using the following STIP contact information:

Address: State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Program Development P.O. Box 112500 Juneau, AK 99811-2500

Phone: (907) 465-4070

Toll Free: (888) PLAN-DOT (752-6368)

Fax: (907) 465-6984

Free Fax: (888) PLAN-FAX (752-6329)

E mail: dot.stip@alaska.gov

Persons with a hearing impairment can contact the department by dialing Alaska Relay at 711 and asking the communication assistant to call the telephone number listed. We are also able to offer, upon request, reasonable accommodations for the special needs related to disabilities.

The DOT&PF will not tolerate discrimination based on race, color, sex or national origin. See our full civil rights disclosure at the STIP website (above).

This notice provided IAW 17 AAC 05.195

You are subscribed to Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Needs List for Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

